



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Jaime A. Molera
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

March 1, 2002
CN# 31-02

To: Administrators, National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs

From: Lynne Dulin, Director
Student Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "LD", is written over the name "Lynne Dulin".

Re: Changes in Special Assistance Rules and Regulations

USDA published the final rule as to changes in Provision 2 and Provision 3 effective for the 2002-2003 school year.

Basically the new additions to Provision 2 is an allowance for *Delayed Implementation* and the ability to use *Annual Claiming Percentages*.

- Delayed implementation allows schools to begin a school year using standard meal counting and claiming procedures, including charging students eligible for reduced price and paid meals. The reduced price charge limit remains at 40 cents. Delayed implementation is allowed for the first claiming period. Note: *It is not the first thirty operating days, or the first "month". The timing is specifically limited to the first claiming period.*
- Annual claiming percentages allow schools to develop an annual claiming percentage for each meal category (i.e., free, reduced price, and paid) which are applied to each month's total meal count during the non-base years. To calculate the annual claiming percentage, the base year annual meal counts must be used. Percentages may not be added together. This is an option. Schools may continue to use the current month-by-month method.

Provision 3 includes the additional requirements of *Obtaining Meal Counts at the Point of Service* and an *Adjustment for operating days* (to the extent that it impacts the number of meals served).

- Meal counts at the point of service is now required during the non-base years. Remember that during the base year, all Provision 3 schools must take meal counts by type to establish the level of reimbursement. Now, for the first time,